

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PHYLLIS ELLMAN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Phyllis Ellman, who died on June 2 at the age of 86. An activist in Marin and Sonoma Counties for more than 40 years, Phyllis was a leader who cared deeply about her community, its people and the environment.

The oldest of four children born in 1923 in Des Moines, Iowa, Phyllis had deep roots in America as one of her ancestors was the military secretary to Gen. George Washington. Phyllis joined the U.S. Army during World War II, and after her honorable discharge, she earned a BS in biology at Kansas State University. She earned a master's degree in biochemistry at Washington State College, where she also met her future husband, George. Six months later they married and moved to Pasadena, California, where Phyllis taught at Cal Tech while George completed his PhD.

In 1958 the Ellmans moved to Tiburon, Marin County, where Phyllis became an avid hiker. She developed a passion for wildflowers and was expert in identifying the unique flowers of the Tiburon hills earning the moniker, "Mother Botany." A member of the California Native Plant Society, she wrote two booklets on the local flora of Ring Mountain.

Always an activist, she pushed for the creation of the Tiburon Bike Path, was appointed to the Tiburon Parks and Recreation Commission in 1973, helped launch the first South of the Knoll playground in Richardson Bay Lineal Park, and with Marilyn Knight, Phyllis established the Belvedere Tiburon Child Care Center, the first such center on the peninsula.

It is Ring Mountain for which she is fondly remembered as being the catalyst saving it from development. Walkers can now hike to the top of Ring Mountain on the Phyllis Ellman Trail which honors her years of public service and devotion to her community.

In 1980 the Ellmans moved to Glen Ellen, Sonoma County, where Phyllis was a dedicated docent at the Bouverie Preserve. She also sang with the Quercus Quire, a group she helped start who performs for elementary school audiences, singing about environmental issues to about 2,000 children each year.

Phyllis leaves her husband of 60 years, George Eliman of Glen Ellen, who is a former Tiburon mayor and town councilmember. Devoted to her family, she also leaves a daughter, brother, two sisters, and seven nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, Phyllis Eliman will be missed by so many who shared in her work and passions. An activist in the best sense, she was a valued member of the Marin and Sonoma communities. Her friendship and bright spirit will be missed by all who had the opportunity to know her.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. LINDER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding that I requested as part of H.R. 3183, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Representative JOHN LINDER

Bill Number: H.R. 3183, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction General

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District
Address of Requesting Entity: 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, GA 31401

Description of Request: This project proposes to deepen the Savannah River Federal navigation channel an additional 6 feet, allowing the Georgia Ports Authority to more efficiently serve the demands of U.S. commerce; remain a valuable asset to the marine transportation system; and handle the currently constrained vessels calling the port, and allow for larger vessels expected to call the port following the Panama Canal expansion. \$1.3 million of the funds are critical for the completion of ongoing environmental studies in order to move to the construction phase. General construction funding of \$33.7 million is necessary to continue the initial construction phase of the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project. The expansion will allow the Port of Savannah to accommodate larger ships and provide the economic stimulus that new, larger ships currently bring rival East Coast ports in New York and Norfolk, Virginia.

CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 447 to congratulate the American Council of Engineering Companies for its dedicated service to America's engineering industry and to celebrate its 100th anniversary this year.

As a strong supporter of the engineering industry and someone who recognizes the vital work that engineers and related professionals perform, I believe it is of the utmost importance to honor the American Council of Engineering Companies for its role in supporting the engineering industry. With more than

5,500 firms throughout the country, this Council has grown from a small group of engineers to an incredibly influential federation of 51 state and regional councils that represent a large cross-section of America's engineering industry. Through its help, America has some of the best engineering structures in the world that allow us to drink fresh water, travel efficiently, and lead an all-around healthier and happier lifestyle.

I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today and support H. Res. 447 to honor the American Council of Engineering Companies for their 100 years of service. Truly, we have all benefitted immensely from the council's efforts and dedication to improving the lives of every American citizen, and I extend my deepest thanks and appreciation for their hard work.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, JR.
Bill Number: H.R. 3326, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: RDTE, Army
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: ALS TDI
Address of Requesting Entity: 215 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02142

Description of Project: Continued support of its cutting edge fast track drug discovery & translational research program and to support clinical trials of effective drugs. (1) Identify physiological pathways and molecules in animal models of disease progression. Compare animal gene expression (transcriptome) to that of humans by employing the largest database ever compiled of animal and ALS patient samples. (2) Operate large scale validation program, using profiling technologies, to modulate gene expression in those genes determined to be candidates for disease effect. (3) Create a comprehensive translational medicine initiative to identify biomarkers for disease staging and prognosis, and drug efficacy and patient response.

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, JR.
Bill Number: H.R. 3326, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: RDTE, Army
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: South Carolina Research Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: 5300 International Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29418

Description of Project: Once fully configured, the Army expects a 5x–10x reduction in delivery times for poured metal part base shapes using TacFab versus conventional procurement processes. Given the Army's considerable interest in and support for the TacFab program to date, it is essential that the program be expeditiously completed to deliver the critical support the warfighters are seeking.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

This final increment being requested in FY 2010 will result in a mobile, rapidly deployable asset, both in theater and within the U.S. in support of RESET operations. This program will cut costs and improve efficiency, cutting waiting time for parts from weeks or months to only 24 hours.

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.

Bill Number: H.R. 3326, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: RDTE, Army

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: South Carolina Research Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: 5300 International Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29418

Description of Project: This project will have an important impact on the Army as it will contribute greatly to the military efforts our troops are currently engaged in around the world and here at home. HIPER will implement a program which ensures the provision of the best and safest weaponry to the warfighter and in the quickest and most efficient way, by replacing parts and resetting weapons more quickly and at reduced cost. This will help keep our troops safe and fully equipped with the optimum defense mechanisms they need to effectively complete their missions, while using cutting-edge technology to reduce costs and lower wait times. To achieve this goal we will be relying on industrial and government partners in numerous states, resulting in employment sustained and created via manufacturing and research requirements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF A NEW SERVICE AND WORSHIP CENTER AT PINE TERRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of a new worship center at Pine Terrace Baptist Church in Milton, Florida. Pine Terrace Baptist has long been a positive force in Northwest Florida, and I am proud of their tremendous contributions to the community.

Pine Terrace Baptist Church began as a mission of another Milton church, Ferris Hill Baptist. In March of 1970, church members of Ferris Hill Baptist set out to create a mission northwest of Milton, and on July 5, 1972, several church families met at a congregant's home. 42 people were present at the first meeting, and continued to meet at members' homes until the church's first building was completed. The first worship service was held in the new building on May 13, 1973, and the mission was officially constituted as Pine Terrace Baptist Church on August 19, 1973 with 48 members.

Since 1973, Pine Terrace has grown to over 1,600 members. A fellowship hall was added in 1976, a children's wing was built in 1978, and a new sanctuary was constructed in 1984. Today the church owns close to 19 acres of land. Seven pastors have served at Pine Terrace since its foundation, and current Pastor Dr. Michael Wiggins has served since 1987. This year the church celebrates the opening of a new worship and service center which will also house administrative facilities and the

music suite. The construction of this new building can be traced directly back to the passion of the congregation and its leaders. The church's motto encompasses what all Americans should strive to achieve: "Loving God. Loving People. Serving the World."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Pine Terrace Baptist Church upon the dedication of their new worship center. My wife Vicki and I wish the best for continued growth and service to Pastor Wiggins and the entire church family.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3326—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010:

Requesting Member: Representative DENNY REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: 10 0602303A Missile Technology

Name and Address: MSE Technology Applications, Inc. of 200 Technology Way, Butte, MT 59701

Description: \$4,000,000 in funding will be used to develop the wind tunnel technology required to test and evaluate a new generation of missiles, space access vehicles, and high-speed aircraft utilizing ramjet and scramjet propulsion technology.

Requesting Member: Representative DENNY REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: 11 0602204F Aerospace Sensors

Name and Address: MSE Technology Applications, Inc. of 200 Technology Way, Butte, MT 59701

Description: \$2,000,000 in funding will be used to develop a ground sensor system, Watchkeeper, which offers unattended use for months at a time, high resolution night/day imaging and global wireless data transfer to command authority.

Requesting Member: Representative DENNY REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: 171 0204571N Consolidated Training Systems Development

Name and Address: Advanced Acoustic Concepts of 920 Technology Blvd., Suite C, Bozeman, MT 59718.

Description: \$3,000,000 in funding will be used to increase operator proficiencies by integrating the current Oceanographic and Atmospheric Master Library (OAML) Navy-standard coremodels, algorithms and data bases into a processing efficient Ocean Model for effective high fidelity simulated sonar training.

Requesting Member: Representative DENNY REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3326

Account: 04 Administration and Servicewide Activities DoD Human Resources Activity

Name and Address: University of Montana of University Hall 116, Missoula, MT 59812.

Description: \$2,000,000 in funding will be used to expand training capacity in critical lan-

guages and cultures to supplement DoD and related federal programs that are now operating at or beyond capacity.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER VALLEY

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Junior Achievement of Mississippi River Valley. In particular, I would like to congratulate the organization's President, Lori Jacob, for winning JA Worldwide's 2009 Karl Flemke Pioneer Achievement Award. This award recognizes significant achievements and contributions of new Junior Achievement USA Member Presidents.

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to teaching students in Kindergarten through 12th grade about the importance of economics, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy. The organization reaches over 9 million students around the world each year, with over 130 local offices in the United States and operations in over 110 countries worldwide. One of the things that makes JA so unique is its use of adult volunteers to bring business to life for students. In the U.S. alone, young people in more than 188,000 classrooms benefit annually from these positive role models.

Ms. Jacob is clearly deserving of receiving this year's Flemke Award.

She began her career with Junior Achievement in 1987, serving in many roles within the Marketing, Education, Development, and Operation departments until she assumed her current position in 2007. Under her leadership, the area reached 127,000 students in over 700 schools this year, on a \$2.7 million budget, making Junior Achievement of Mississippi Valley one of the organization's largest operations in the United States. Ms. Jacobs led the area to become a national two-time winner of JA's most prestigious funding award—the MetLife Entrepreneurial Award. She has been a champion in creating more awareness of JA, and has a volunteer board of directors composed of over 60 leaders of the St. Louis community.

In this current economic climate, teaching students the importance of economics and financial literacy is of the utmost importance, and I congratulate Ms. Jacobs and Junior Achievement of the Mississippi River Valley for their efforts throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF U.S. ARMY 1ST SERGEANT JOSE SAN NICOLAS CRISOSTOMO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of

United States Army 1st Sergeant Jose San Nicolas Crisostomo. 1st SGT Crisostomo, originally from the village of Inarajan, Guam, was assigned to International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan. 1st SGT Crisostomo passed away on August 18, 2009 while on duty in Afghanistan. He was 59 years old and the oldest servicemember to perish in Afghanistan.

1st SGT Crisostomo was born on August 29, 1949 to Joaquin and Joaquina Crisostomo and lived a life of honor, service, and dedication to preserving his culture. Known to his friends and family as "Joe" or "Uncle Sinbad," 1st SGT Crisostomo is remembered for his altruism, patriotism, and vibrant personality. He was active in promoting the Chamorro culture and was a founder and former president of "Grupun Minagof," an organization established to help Guamanians living in Washington state. His leadership and dedication to his community and his family will remain an enduring legacy.

A longtime member of the U.S. Army, 1st SGT Crisostomo re-enlisted in 2008 after previously serving for 24 years, which included tours of duty in the Vietnam War and the first Gulf War. 1st SGT Crisostomo was a two-time recipient of the Bronze Star for combat valor and received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in combat. He was also awarded the Kuwait Liberation Medal in 1991.

I join our community in mourning the loss of 1st SGT Crisostomo and in offering condolences to his wife, Patricia Leon Guerrero Crisostomo; his children, Tricia Renee, Jeffrey Joe ("Jay"), and Dominic Jay; his 10 grandchildren and to his many family and friends. 1st SGT Crisostomo served with honor and distinction, like the many sons and daughters of Guam who served before him, and he gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country.

God bless the family and friends of 1st Sergeant Jose San Nicolas Crisostomo, God bless our men and women in uniform protecting our country, God bless Guam, and God bless the United States of America.

CITY OF DUNEDIN, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZED AS A COMMUNITY FOR A LIFETIME

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, The city of Dunedin, Florida, that I have the privilege to represent has been honored with a "Communities for a Lifetime Award" by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

The award is given to communities that demonstrate successful best practices that foster community initiatives to address the benefits and challenges of an increasing elder population.

A total of 105 Florida towns and cities participate in the Communities for a Lifetime Initiative and Dunedin was the very first city to sign up for the program.

One of the major initiatives for which Dunedin was honored was a 2008 project between the city and Mease Hospital to turn a vacant building into an adult day care center where family caregivers can receive valuable respite

care so they can continue caring for their aging loved ones.

This is the second time Dunedin has been honored by the program. Two years ago, the city received a Continual Progress Award for creating a Lifetime Bureau.

Madam Speaker, Dunedin is an outstanding place to live, to work, to play, and to retire. This latest recognition is not only a reflection of the work of the Mayor and City Commissioners, but of the entire community which makes Dunedin such a welcoming place for residents of all ages.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3170, FY2010 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill.

Requesting Member: Representative REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3170

Account: Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses

Requesting Entity: Montana State University, HTAP: High-Technology Assistance Program

Description: \$133,000 in federal funds will enable Montana State University to assist Montana's high-technology businesses in adopting micro and nanotechnologies as a means to improving their products and increasing competitiveness in the high-tech market.

Requesting Member: Representative REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3170

Account: Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses

Requesting Entity: Montana World Trade Center

Description: The Montana World Trade Center has a long and successful history of export and trade assistance. \$134,000 will go toward assisting "new to export" Montana businesses in marketing and selling their products and services globally.

Requesting Member: Representative REHBERG

Bill Number: H.R. 3170

Account: Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses

Requesting Entity: TechRanch at Montana State University

Description: The TechRanch at Montana State University is a cohesive center that will provide comprehensive business development services and business support services to high-tech Montana companies. \$133,000 will help maintain their goal of attracting technology businesses to the State.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN TO THE LABOR MOVEMENT

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of women in the labor and social movements. The UAW held a ceremony this past Labor Day in Flint Michigan to honor the contributions of women in labor, civil rights, the military, women's rights, and the political arena.

From the 300 women that came together in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848, to promote women's rights and suffrage, women have banded together to improve our country. Jane Addams, "the mother of social work," worked with the labor movement in Chicago to eliminate poverty, and advance the living conditions of workers. From her work at Hull-House in Chicago, Jane Addams became a moving force in the passage in the first Federal child labor law passed in 1916.

Women have played a pivotal role in the organization and development of every social movement of the past century, including the labor movement. In my hometown of Flint, the Women's Auxiliary provided support for the families of the sit-down strikers. The Women's Emergency Brigade was on the front lines as the police attempted to stop the union. Since the formation of the UAW, women have toiled side by side with men in the factories and have taken their place at the bargaining table.

The labor movement had one of its greatest advocates in Frances Perkins. She was the first female Secretary of Labor and was the first female member of a President's Cabinet. During her younger days she lived at Hull-House and embraced the concept of unionism but it was witnessing firsthand the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in 1911 that cemented her commitment to the workers of our country. As the architect of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal, her vision of a better life for all cannot be underestimated. She was at the center of the 15 major pieces of legislation passed during the first 100 days of Roosevelt's Administration. She conceived the Social Security Act of 1935, the most important piece of social legislation in U.S. history, and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and shepherded them through Congress until they were enacted into law. Social Security, unemployment compensation, minimum wage, maximum work hours and the right to collective bargaining are just part of her legacy to the American people.

Madam Speaker, today the number of women registered to vote exceeds the number of registered men by 8.3 million. Women make up 14 percent of active duty military personnel, and two-thirds of all new union members in the United States are women. Women have organized, financed, marched, volunteered, worked and are still working to fulfill the dreams of those 300 women that came together in 1848 and because of their efforts we all live in a better world.

HONORING CHIEF MAURICE L.
KEMP

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and honor Chief Maurice L. Kemp, the first African-American Fire-Rescue Chief in the city of Miami's history. This outstanding public servant has worked with the City of Miami Fire Department for 24 years and has held the positions of lieutenant, captain, assistant fire chief, and deputy fire chief.

Chief Kemp received a bachelor of science degree in biology from Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina and a master's degree in public administration from Nova Southeastern University.

As Deputy Fire Chief since 1999, Chief Kemp has overseen the technical, management, support, communication, and emergency management services, as well as developed and managed budget and legislative functions. In 2006, he was appointed the Program Chief and Task Force Leader for the United States Department of Homeland Security, FEMA Urban Search and Rescue.

Moreover, Chief Kemp has received accolades throughout his career including the Dr. A. Mancebo Memorial Award and recognition from the 5000 Role Models of South Florida.

Since 1735, professional and volunteer firefighters have been an invaluable facet of our communities, towns, and cities. Through the City of Miami's mission to "serve the citizens of Miami in a professional manner by providing rapid emergency response and other services to save lives and protect property" and their motto, "Excellence through Service," I commend the tremendous bravery of Miami's firefighters and am proud to honor each one today on the Floor of the House. Ever vigilant, this Nation's firefighters respond quickly to emergencies of all kinds and protect and save lives each and every day. From the earliest days of Benjamin Franklin's Union Fire Company to the famous fire departments of New York City, Chicago, and Boston, every fire station in this country has a proud history and tradition of distinguished service.

Today, men such as Chief Kemp along with over one million firefighters answer the call of duty and perform extraordinary acts of selflessness and valor without hesitation.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me and the public safety community in this remarkable show of solidarity. Chief Kemp is an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation. It is with deep respect and admiration that I commend Chief Kemp, and thank the men and women in the fire service field that dedicate to the selfless protection of others stand together in the face of adversity, bonded by sacrifice and a sense of duty.

WELCOME HOME IN HONOR OF A
AMERICAN HERO CAPT SCOTT
SPEICHER THE UNITED STATES
NAVY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I have come here today to honor a fallen hero who, after 18 years, has finally been reunited with his family. Captain Speicher was a man of great distinction who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that others might know a more peaceful world. The following poem from Capitol Guide Albert Carey Caswell reflects on his final journey home.

WELCOME HOME

Welcome Home!
Scott, may your sacred body rest!
America's Finest, of all Sons, but one of her very best!
How over the years, have so have so our tears . . . have so run!
And all of those sleepless nights, keeping hope alive . . . as we have all so done!
As your beautiful Children, have so missed you my Son!
And your Wonderful Wife, with hope burning bright . . . how the tears begun!
And your Mom and Dad, praying from evening to morning sun . . .
But, it's over now . . . we can rest!
But, oh how so bittersweet . . . this answer, this emptiness . . . Thy Will Be Done!
For you were and will always be, one of America's best!
Welcome Home, Our Most Heroic One!
For you are now, One of America's Chosen Sons . . .
Sons of Freedom and Peace, who defend us with but only their beliefs!
'Oh how so Magnificent, are but all of these . . . such splendid ones!
Just moments, are all that we so have . . .
To make a difference, to heart's grab!
To change the world!
To go off so valiantly, with but out flags unfurled . . .
It's been eighteen long . . . long years!
With all of that heartache, and all of those most swollen tears . . .
Still, in all our pain . . . there are so many families, who will never know . . .
Will never know, but where there loved ones so remain . . .
Bless you, our Fine Son!
And your family, for our country . . . for what you have all so done!
For your last flight Scott, was not over Iraq!
But, up to our Lord . . . as straight up to Heaven as was that!
For Scott now, now are an Angel with wings . . .
In the Army of our Lord, of all things!
And on the day you arrived, could you not hear our Lord and his Angels cry!
Scott, Welcome Home!

In honor of a real American Hero, Navy Captain Scott Speicher and his family . . . may they find peace . . .

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BLIND
LEMON JEFFERSON AND THE
BLIND LEMON BLUES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, as the famed York Theatre Company of New York celebrates its 40th anniversary, today I rise to recognize their newest musical genius, "Blind Lemon Blues" and to pay tribute to the Legendary Father of the Texas Blues, "Blind" Lemon Jefferson.

Blind Lemon Blues celebrates the legacy of Blind Lemon Jefferson and his profound influence upon the development of American popular music. Blind Lemon Blues is set in New York City in 1948 at the last recording session of the legendary Huddie Ledbetter, better known as Lead Belly, and combines elements of traditional blues, gospel, rhythm and blues, soul, doo-wop, and rap to evoke the enduring legacy of Blind Lemon and his contemporaries, Blind Willie Johnson, Lillian Glinn, Hattie Hudson, Bobbie Cadillac, Lillian Miller and Lead Belly himself.

"Blind" Lemon Jefferson was one of the most popular blues singers of the 1920s, and has been titled "Father of the Texas Blues." Jefferson's singing and self-accompaniment were distinctive as a result of his high-pitched voice and originality on the guitar. He used Dallas as a base to launch an extraordinary blues career, during which he made over 80 recordings of his intricate melodic rhythms and influenced countless artists, including B.B. King. Other later blues and rock and roll musicians attempted to imitate both his songs and his musical style.

Often heralded as one of the most influential bluesmen of all time, "Blind" Lemon Jefferson was born blind near Couchman, Texas, in Freestone County, near present-day Wortham, Texas, in September 1893. Jefferson was one of eight children born to sharecroppers Alex and Clarissa Jefferson. Jefferson began playing the guitar in his early teens, and soon after he began performing at picnics and parties. He also became a street musician, playing in east Texas towns in front of barbershops and on corners.

In the early 1920s, Jefferson traveled to Dallas, where he met Huddie "Leadbelly" Leadbetter and established the blues scene in Dallas' Deep Ellum district. Five years later, he was on the road of instant success. Between the years of 1925 and 1929, Jefferson made over 80 recordings for Paramount Records and became the first commercially successful male black artist. Some of his most notable recordings are "Black Snake Moan," "Boll Weevil Blues," "Matchbox Blues," and the song that would become his trademark, "See That My Grave Is Kept Clean."

Jefferson died from mysterious circumstances on the streets of Chicago on December 22, 1929, and was buried in the old Wortham Negro Cemetery. His grave was unmarked until 1967, when a Texas state historical marker was dedicated to him. He was inducted in the Blues Foundation's Hall of Fame in 1980. In 1997 the town of Wortham began a blues festival named for the singer, and a new granite headstone was placed at his gravesite—a fitting tribute to the man who

sang “. . . Lord, there's just one favor I ask of you, see that my grave is kept clean.” In 2007 the name of the cemetery was changed to Blind Lemon Memorial Cemetery.

So Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the good work of Director and Choreographer Akin Babatunde and Producer Alan Govenar for such a magnificent rendition of the life of Blind Lemon Jefferson and those Blind Lemon Blues.

HONORING THE FLINT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1959

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the Flint Central High School Class of 1959 as they celebrate their 50th Class Reunion. A party was held in my hometown of Flint, Michigan, on September 4 in honor of this milestone. I am proud to say that I was their teacher.

Over 1,000 students graduated from Flint Central High School in 1959 and their senior year was highlighted by outstanding academic and athletic programs. The football team won the State Championship, the cross-country team won the State Championship, the basketball team won the Regional Championship, and the track team won the State Championship.

The Class of 1959 boasted six Valedictorians. Many students accepted college scholarships and military academy appointments. Over 350 students participated in the 33rd Annual Kaleidoscope and the theatrical production that year was “A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court.”

The graduates spanned all walks of life and went on to careers in law, research, education, medicine, the fine arts and manufacturing. The surviving 700 classmates live in almost every state in the United States. Members of the Class of 1959 spread out over the globe and currently can be found in Scotland, Japan, and Mexico.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in commending the achievements of the Flint Central High School Class of 1959. As their former teacher, I take deep pride in helping to shape the minds and abilities of these graduates and I congratulate them on their talents, accomplishments, and triumphs.

CONGRATULATING TED AND VEE STUBAN ON THEIR 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Stuban of Berwick, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary that was celebrated on September 3.

Throughout their remarkable lives, Ted and Vee Stuban have exemplified what it means to be personal and community role models.

As lifelong residents of northeastern Pennsylvania, Ted was associated with the excavation business and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation before starting an auction business which he and Vee operated for about 25 years.

Ted was also deeply involved in his community, initially as a member of the Berwick Council, then as mayor of Briar Creek and, later, as a member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly as State Representative of the 109th District for eight successive terms, from 1976 to 1992.

In his capacity as State Representative, Ted was instrumental in crafting legislation and serving constituents in a manner that earned him much respect among his colleagues in Harrisburg and among the thousands of citizens in his district whom he represented so well.

Ted was also deeply involved in civic activities over the years. He was a member of the West End Fire Company, the Knights of Columbus, the Bloomsburg Elks Lodge, past president of the Columbia Montour Aging Board, the Columbia-Montour Visiting Nurses Association board of directors, the PPL Advisory Commission and Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Vee Stuban is the former Charlotte Hetler, of Berwick. Formerly employed by the Wise Potato Chip Company in Berwick, Vee has been active in Democrat political circles for many years. She is a member of the Columbia County Democratic Women’s Club and the Columbia County Democratic Caucus. She has also been active over the years as a 4H leader and as a member of the Calvary United Methodist Church in Berwick.

Ted and Vee are the parents of a daughter, Mrs. Joseph R., Kathy, Duda.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ted and Vee Stuban on this very special occasion. Not only has this remarkable couple contributed greatly to the quality of life in their community, but they have also been an inspiration to their peers and to future generations as they illustrated, through their actions as well as their words, how to live lives focused on community service to others as a means of deriving personal happiness and contentment.

JARED C. MONTI: AMERICAN HERO

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, the hardest part of our job is attending the funerals of those young men and women who have given their lives in the service of our country. Having voted to send American military forces into war in Afghanistan, I was profoundly moved—and troubled—when I attend the funeral of Sergeant Jared C. Monti of Raynham, Massachusetts, who lost his life in a brave effort to save a comrade in that country. These occasions are for us an important reminder that voting to send people to war is a last resort done only after the most thorough and thoughtful consideration, and

only when no alternative is consistent with our security.

But Madam Speaker, to talk about the difficulty of our jobs in the context of the death in battle of this brave young man is an example of grave disproportion. For me, this was a sad day. For the family of Jared Monti, it was part of a period of deep and enduring sadness, and of course with Sergeant Monti himself it was the ultimate tragedy—a promising young life lost.

Madam Speaker, in the Boston Globe for Sunday, September 6, Bryan Bender of the Globe staff wrote a moving, eloquent article about Sergeant Monti, describing the battle in which he was killed as he with no regard for his own safety tried to save a wounded comrade. Next week I will be at the White House when Sergeant Monti’s family receives the Medal of Honor that was posthumously awarded to him. Madam Speaker, as a tribute to an extraordinary young man, whose dedication to his comrades was unlimited, and as a reminder of what war really means to those who must fight it, I ask that Mr. Bender’s excellent, sad article be printed here.

[From the Boston Globe, Sept. 6, 2009]

HE COULD NOT LEAVE A COMRADE BEHIND

(By Bryan Bender)

The sound of feet shuffling in the woods, high on a ridge in remote Afghanistan, was the only warning that Sergeant Jared C. Monti and the 15 men under his command were about to be attacked. Before they could even react, they were bombarded with rocket-propelled grenades and machine-gun fire.

The ambush by mountain tribesmen allied with the Taliban came so suddenly and with such ferocity that some members of Monti’s unit “had their weapons literally shot out of their hands,” according to an Army report.

Monti, a 30-year-old staff sergeant from Raynham, shouted orders and radioed for support as he found cover behind some large rocks. An officer a few miles away asked whether he could pinpoint the enemy’s position.

“Sir, I can’t give you a better read or I’m gonna eat an RPG,” Monti replied.

But later, when one of his men was wounded and lying in the open, Monti braved intense fire to try to rescue him—not once, but three times. It cost him his life.

Three years later, after an Army review of Monti’s actions that day, President Obama will award him the Medal of Honor, the highest recognition for valor in the US military. When Monti’s parents, Paul and Janet, accept the award in a White House ceremony on Sept. 17, it will be only the sixth time the Medal of Honor has been awarded since Sept. 11, 2001, and the first time someone from Massachusetts has earned it since the Vietnam War.

Monti’s story reveals not just the courageous actions of a 12-year Army veteran. It also illustrates the extreme conditions of combat in Afghanistan, where increasing numbers of US forces are dying, and the sheer chaos of the war.

Everything went wrong for Monti and his patrol. The unit was left on that narrow ridge longer than intended, exposing it to a much larger enemy. And while Monti’s display of “extreme personal courage and extraordinary self-sacrifice,” as the Army described it, helped turn the tide, disaster struck again when the soldier Monti tried to save was killed in a freak accident while being airlifted out. Including Monti, four soldiers died.

“True valor is not defined so much by results,” an Army general wrote in recommending Monti for the medal, “as it is by

the depth of conviction that inspires its expression. On rare occasions, the actions of men are so extraordinary that the nobility rests, not in their outcome, but in the courage of their undertaking."

"HE WAS VERY HUMBLE"

When Charlie Witkus learned his buddy Jared had been killed, he organized a "Viking" funeral.

After his burial at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, Monti's friends collected cards, letters, and other mementos of him and set them ablaze on a makeshift pyre floating on a Taunton pond.

It was a fitting tribute, Witkus felt, for a guy who once organized a "survival style" canoe trip down the Taunton River, with no food or water.

"I was devastated," said Witkus, who last spoke with his friend about three weeks before he died. "He was the most stand-up guy I ever knew."

Monti was born in Abington and grew up in Raynham, 35 miles south of Boston, the son of a schoolteacher and a nurse.

Stories of his generous spirit abound: As a youngster he made lunches for his brother and sister to help his mom get to nursing school on time. During his high school years, he once cut down a spruce tree in their yard to give to a single mother who could not afford a Christmas tree for her kids. He even collected enough money for gifts.

But he rarely took credit for his deeds, relatives and friends said. Only after he died did his father, Paul, find a 3-foot tall trophy Jared won in a weight-lifting championship.

"That is the way he was," said Paul Monti. "He was very humble. He believed in doing things for other people."

To honor his son's memory, Paul Monti has established an annual scholarship fund for a Raynham senior headed to college.

He also finds comfort driving Jared's pickup, still covered with stickers from his beloved 10th Mountain Division.

Jared set his sights on the military early, inspired by an uncle in the Navy. He joined the Massachusetts National Guard's delayed entry program in 11th grade at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, attending weekend drills at the recruiting station in Taunton until he graduated.

"I wanted to be that same person," he later wrote of how the image of his uncle's crisp uniform captured his imagination.

A STEADY HAND

Monti was not a perfect soldier, but he proved that he could earn the trust and respect of those he led; he called them his "boys," and some of them called him "grandpa."

When he left for basic training in Missouri in 1993, barely 18 years old, he had never been out of Massachusetts. Army life was tough, he recalled, but he adjusted quickly and eventually decided to enlist full time. He was disappointed other soldiers didn't take it as seriously—a feeling he later expressed in his own words in a journal his family found on his computer after his death.

"I wanted to fight for my country at a time when everybody else was smoking weed and or just there to earn a couple of bucks toward college," he wrote.

He got into several bar fights, including with one of his sergeants in Kansas who ridiculed him by calling him "Rambo," and he did 14 days of hard labor for violating a weekend pass when he was stationed in South Korea in the 1990s. "I drank till there was no tomorrow," he wrote of the incident.

But as he rose through the enlisted ranks, his superiors quickly saw he had a steadiness and maturity that others didn't. Monti was one of the first enlisted soldiers in the 82nd Airborne Division selected to be trained to

call in air strikes on enemy positions, an enormous responsibility that brought the risk of civilian casualties.

"If a lot of guys were just sitting around, he was always willing to teach us something," recalled Sergeant Clifford Baird, who first met Monti, with his ever-present chewing tobacco tucked under his lip, when they were posted together at Fort Drum, N.Y. "He'd sit there and give us a class. He was very respected around here."

Monti also had a special bond with junior soldiers. While soldiers are required to shave every day, even in the field, Monti would let his beard grow and shave only before returning to base. The new guys loved that he would bend the rules like that.

And he was as loyal to his men as they were to him. He once gave up his leave to fill in for a soldier who hadn't seen his family in two years. When stationed at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, he gave his new kitchen set to a soldier whose kids were eating on the floor. When his girlfriend, Sherri, sent care packages with his favorite cigars, he would promptly hand them out to his unit.

"One of the things that sets him apart was that he had a great deal of compassion," said Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey Abbott, the operations officer for Monti's squadron in Afghanistan.

A HEAVY BURDEN

He earned a chestful of medals, but Monti agonized over all the killing war required, his family said. He returned from Afghanistan in 2003 with a Bronze Star for valor, but his mother recalled: "He didn't like talking about it. Most of the time he just liked to be left alone. He'd say, 'Don't tell anybody I am here.' He wasn't proud of it."

When he was pressed about how he earned it, Janet Monti said, he'd finally blurt out something like, "I had to kill someone's brother, or father, or sister."

Monti described his private anxieties in an undated entry, titled "My story," that his father recently found on his personal computer. "We are not fighting in World War II," Monti wrote. "We don't have the ability to justify any means to our end. Wars of today are not black and white."

Monti's job to call in air strikes "weighed heavily on him," said Jon Krakauer, a mountaineer and author of the best-seller "Into Thin Air" who, while working on a book, spent nearly five weeks with Monti's unit.

"It was always this tough call," Krakauer said. "He was conservative about it."

Krakauer recalled a patrol with Monti when a Toyota Corolla came barreling down the road. Fearing the driver was a suicide bomber, a soldier prepared to open fire. But Monti stopped him just in time. It turned out the driver was just a local in a hurry.

"A split-second later it would have been really bad," said Krakauer.

It was Monti's humanity that also helped him get along especially well with the locals, Krakauer said. He was called on frequently to negotiate, through an interpreter, with tribal leaders, who liked him so much they gave him a Muslim name.

"He was only 30-years-old but he was an old soul," said Krakauer.

"WORST-CASE SCENARIO"

The nearly 300 members of the 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment had a grueling mission; they lost an average of 15 to 20 percent of their body weight, pulling 16- to 18-hour days, seven days a week, often in 100-plus degree temperatures.

In one of the longest maneuvers in recent US military history, they trekked by Humvee along dirt paths and steep mountain passes from a US base in southern Afghanistan to remote Nuristan province in the northeast, about the distance between New York and Washington, D.C.

"We moved into unknown terrain," recalled Abbott, the squadron's operations officer, noting even the Soviet army did not venture there during its brutal occupation of Afghanistan in the 1980s.

"Sergeant Monti went out with reconnaissance teams to learn the people," he said, "to learn the populace, and to gain knowledge of a terrain that nobody had ever been employed in before."

Monti's last mission was to scout Taliban positions near infiltration routes from neighboring Pakistan—mainly goat trails thousands of feet up—and gather targeting data for a larger offensive, dubbed Operation Gowardesh after the nearby town, to take place a few days later.

On the evening of June 17, 2006, the patrol was ferried by helicopter a few miles from the town. To avoid detection and the sweltering heat, they moved mostly in the dark, using night-vision equipment to navigate the rugged terrain.

On June 20, they stopped on a narrow ridge overlooking the Gremen Valley, with steep inclines on both sides, that commanded a view of several enemy positions.

The 16 soldiers set up their observation post on a sloping patch of ground, about 165 feet long and 65 feet wide, with a tree line at the top end and a few large rocks, a portion of an old stone wall, and a few small trees at the lower end, according to the Army's recreation of the battle.

The next morning Monti was informed that the larger US assault would be delayed for three days—the helicopters and troops were needed elsewhere—leaving them low on food and water. The plan had been to use the cover of the US assault to resupply them by helicopter; now the resupply could expose them to the enemy.

At about 1:30 p.m., Monti took most of the patrol to meet a resupply helicopter about 500 feet away. A small group stayed behind. They soon spotted a local man down in the valley using military-style binoculars to look up toward their position before he picked up a satchel and disappeared.

"It was the worst-case scenario," said former Army Captain Ross A. Berkoff, the squadron's intelligence officer, who was monitoring the situation from about 6 miles away. "We stirred up a hornet's nest."

WELL-COORDINATED ATTACK

When the enemy fighters opened fire on the patrol just before nightfall, the two soldiers nearest the woods bolted down the slope to seek cover behind rocks.

Sergeant Patrick Lybert, 28, of Ladysmith, Wis., was crouched behind a low stone wall, in the best position to fire back. The others could barely raise their heads to aim.

The patrol faced between 60 and 80 fighters, most of them members of Hezb-e-Islami Gulbuddin, a local tribal militia aligned with the Taliban, according to Berkoff.

Monti calmly reported over the radio that the patrol was at risk of being overrun, according to officers in the operations center a few miles away. As shoulder-launched RPGs (rocket-propelled grenades) skipped off the rocks right above his head, he began plotting grid coordinates for another group of soldiers on another ridge to fire mortar shells at the advancing fighters.

Within minutes, Lybert, who had been holding off the enemy from behind the stone wall, slumped forward, blood coming out of his ears.

The tribal militia split into two groups to try to encircle the patrol. Soldiers who still had weapons passed them back and forth to the one in the best position to fire back.

The enemy "had one goal in mind," said Abbott, who was monitoring the battle from the command post. "To overrun and kill everybody in Monti's squad."

Monti saw a group of fighters closing in fast. When they came within 30 feet, he threw a grenade in their path. He then took a head count. Private Brian Bradbury, who had been near the tree line, was missing.

A DARK ENDING

Monti called out for him over the din of the battle. He called again. Finally, the 22-year-old from Lowville, N.Y., replied weakly that he was badly injured and couldn't move. He was lying about 30 feet away, where Monti couldn't see him, but directly in the enemy's sights.

Monti told Bradbury he was coming to get him. He handed off his radio, tightened the chin strap of his helmet, and ran out into the open. The woods, about 100 feet past Bradbury, immediately erupted with more gunfire and RPGs.

Moving low and fast, according to the testimony of his fellow soldiers, Monti got within less than a dozen feet of Bradbury before he had to dive behind the low stone wall where Lybert lay dead. After a brief pause, he made another attempt but the shooting was even more intense. He scrambled back behind the low wall.

He prepared to make another attempt to save Bradbury, this time asking some of his men to cover him with more gun fire trained on the woods. But as he lunged toward Bradbury the third time, an RPG exploded in his path.

The blast blew off his legs, but Monti struggled to get back to the stone wall, his men calling out in encouragement. With his last breaths, his soldiers later reported, Monti said he made his peace with God. And right before he died he asked them to tell his family he loved them.

As darkness fell over the valley, the mortar rounds Monti called for began to hit the enemy positions. US aircraft also dropped several bombs into the woods.

"Monti's selfless act of courage rallied the patrol to defeat the enemy attack," the Army concluded.

It was dark by the time Bradbury was pulled to safety and treated by the medic. A helicopter arrived but couldn't land because of the rough terrain. Staff Sergeant Heath Craig, 28, a medic from Severn, Md., was lowered to Bradbury, who had a team of doctors waiting to treat him back at the base. But as they were being hoisted up, the winch broke. Both fell to their deaths.

Berkoff remembered standing in front of the field hospital and thinking, "Could anything possibly go right today?"

Monti was posthumously promoted to sergeant first class.

As she prepares to accept the Medal of Honor from the president for her son's sacrifice, Janet Monti says she can't help but wonder what Jared would think about it. "He would say this medal isn't just for me. He would want to share this medal with everybody who died that day."

HONORING RICHARD KUCKENBECKER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Richard Kuckenbecker upon being named by the Madera District Chamber of Commerce as a 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree. Mr. Kuckenbecker will be recognized on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at the Fifth An-

nual Lifetime Achievement Awards and Installation Dinner.

Richard Kuckenbecker was born in Sanger, California. At the age of five, he began to spend time in his father's business, Kuckenbecker Tractor Company. As a young man, he would assist by sweeping the floors, cleaning the lavatory and completing tasks that needed to be done around the shop. Upon graduating from high school, Mr. Kuckenbecker attended Fresno State, where he played baseball. Just shy of completing his Bachelor's Degree, he left school and returned to the family business. Mr. Kuckenbecker was twenty-one years old when he took over Kuckenbecker Tractor Company, he was the youngest tractor dealer in the nation. During college he met Lynn Bashian, and in May 1964 they were married and promptly moved to Madera from Fresno. Kuckenbecker Trucking Company has been in the family for sixty-five years. Since Mr. Kuckenbecker took the reigns the business has changed locations and expanded to include a dealership in Fresno in 1982.

Mr. Kuckenbecker has always been dedicated to his community. He is a founding member and President of the Madera County Ag Boosters, serves on the board of the California State University, Fresno Ag One. He is a member of the Far West Equipment Dealers Association, National Association of Farm Equipment Dealers, Ford Motor Company Dealer Council, Madera Historical Society. Mr. Kuckenbecker served as a judge for the Fresno Bee Excellence in Business award. He has also won the Madera District Fair Blue Ribbon award. For his civic duty, he served on the Madera Planning Commission. For all that he has done for the community, Mr. Kuckenbecker was selected as the first Madera District Chamber of Commerce Agribusiness Person of the Year. He has received the Fresno County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service award and the Fresno Bee Excellence in Business Award for Agriculture.

Mr. Kuckenbecker and his wife Lynn have three children and five grandchildren, with another grandchild on the way. He continues to own and operate Kuckenbecker Trucking Company in Madera and Fresno.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Richard Kuckenbecker upon being honored as the Madera Chamber of Commerce 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Kuckenbecker many years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHASE SIMMONS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I want to thank a member of my staff who is leaving us to move back to "our" home state of Texas. After earning a degree in Psychology from Texas A&M University, Chase Simmons came to Washington and spent the last 4 years here on Capitol Hill. He served as a Senior Staff Assistant for the Committee on Energy and Commerce and joined the Committee on Science and Technology in 2007 as

our Committee Clerk. Chase first came to Capitol Hill in 2005 serving as an intern in my office.

Chase has worked hard to help me serve the people of the 4th District of Texas and assisted the Members of Congress serving on the Committee on Science and Technology.

I thank him for his efforts and wish him well in the future.

AGAINST THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE OTEEN POST OFFICE IN ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, as the son of a rural postal carrier, I was raised with the United States Postal Service as an integral part of my community, my family, and my life. I grew up understanding the vital role a rural post office can play in terms of jobs, small businesses, and local economies. Today the Postal Service is in jeopardy. With increasing reliance on electronic communication, fewer and fewer citizens are using standard mail to send and receive correspondence.

To counter the reduction in usage and their enormous deficit, the United States Postal Service has been forced to implement difficult cost-cutting measures. Among these measures is the consolidation of numerous post office branches throughout the country. In my postal region alone, the Mid-Carolinas District, 6 of the 80 post offices that service the area have been closed in the past year. The Post Master General estimates that over the next year, approximately 300 post offices nationwide will be forced to shut their doors. This will result in job losses and reduced community access to postal services for individuals and businesses.

I am particularly concerned about the Oteen Post Office in Asheville, which is currently under review for consolidation in my district. There has been tremendous local resistance to the possible closing of the Oteen Post Office, especially because the facility is located directly across the street from the Charles George Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The VA hospital is reliant on the Oteen Post Office to meet the correspondence needs of its patients, as well as the critical administrative needs of the medical center staff. For example, the Oteen facility provides fee-based presorting services to 18 different departments of the VA hospital and early mail pick-up to expedite the delivery of vital medical paperwork. Should the facility close, employees of the VA hospital and citizens in the area would have to drive almost 14 miles roundtrip to access the nearest retail postal facility.

Furthermore, it is important to remember that many elderly and rural citizens, poor people and people without permanent residences rely solely on post office boxes to receive their mail. By closing the Oteen Post Office, as with many post offices around the country, we are complicating access to these post office boxes and putting further strain on our veterans, senior citizens, and those with limited means.

Consolidation of post offices is not the best solution to this crisis. In many instances, it is detrimental. Rather than shutting post office

doors, we should look at other streamlining solutions that are already being successfully implemented. We should explore proven solutions such as adjusting post office hours to reflect customer use, extending early retirement eligibility to USPS employees, and adjusting postal delivery routes to better reflect the diminished volume of mail.

Madam Speaker, we need to keep Oteen and post offices like it open. I strongly encourage my colleagues to consider alternatives to rural post office consolidation and job loss that will help streamline the efforts of the postal service, cut costs, and increase efficiency.

RECOGNIZING JOSH ECKHOFF

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Josh Eckhoff to the U.S. House of Representatives and to recognize his tremendous contribution to our nation. Josh's story is a testament to his selflessness and an example of service every American citizen should take to heart.

After he graduated high school, Josh volunteered to join the Missouri National Guard. He was called to service in Iraq on two occasions. On his first deployment, Josh trained Iraqi soldiers to provide security for convoys tasked with transporting supplies. When he returned home, Josh enrolled in the University of Missouri at St. Louis. He was then deployed to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Then, in September of 2007, Josh was called to duty in Iraq again. This time his mission was clearing roads. He had been in Iraq for six months when an improvised explosive device exploded, causing him serious injury. After several surgeries, tremendous hardship, difficult rehabilitation and a long recovery, Josh is now back in St. Louis, where he will complete his degree.

He has received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his courage, and he is a great example of perseverance to everyone in my home state of Missouri. He will be the Parade Marshall in the annual Cotton Carnival Parade in Sikeston, Missouri, on October 3 this fall. We will give him a hero's welcome in Southern Missouri, and I think it is highly appropriate that Josh Eckhoff receive the same recognition in this Congress for his many accomplishments, past, present and future.

RECOGNIZING ELOISE McCALL OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eloise Enoyer McCall of Pasco County, Florida. In a couple of days, Eloise will do something that all of us strive to do, but that very few of us

will ever accomplish, celebrate her 100th birthday.

Born September 11, 1909 in South Sabius, New York, she now resides in Zephyrhills, Florida. Eloise was married for 53 blissful years to her late husband Carl McCall. Together they had three sons, Gerald, Leonard and Bernard.

For the past 27 years Eloise has been a member of the Zephyrhills tourist club where she still goes dancing every week.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring Eloise Enoyer McCall for reaching her 100th birthday. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as her.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF BOLIVAR, MISSOURI

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Baptist Church in Bolivar, Missouri, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary of serving its community guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ. Starting with a charter group of seven believers in early September, 1859, today the First Baptist Church in Bolivar includes more than 1,500 members.

Its 150 year history has been marked by steady growth and renewed commitments of service to the community and members of its congregation. Today, First Baptist in Bolivar provides more than spiritual richness; it offers recreation, child care, educational and family support through an array of missions, programs and services all geared to serve God.

It started as a small charter group organized as the "United Baptist Church of Jesus Christ at Bolivar" and at its second meeting voted to build a house of worship—the first of what would be five structures. With unrest in the nation caused by events that would lead to civil war, the church treasury was empty in January, 1861. Three months later with the start of the Civil War, construction of the new church for its 17 worshipers was halted. The building was left unfinished and in debt.

The conclusion of the war left only four members of the original congregation living in Bolivar. It was 1866 when D.R. Murphy stepped into the leadership role at the struggling church. As pastor, Murphy took up the call to resume construction of the church building and mount a donated church bell in the new tower.

Two years later the church was still under construction, but the congregation decided to move their worship services from the courthouse to the new church in August, even before the walls were plastered. The building was painted with pews and kerosene lamps in place by the end of the year, and the Bolivar church began to grow.

The first organized choir could be heard in 1869 accompanied by organ music. And the size of the congregation underwent a dramatic increase when Southwest Baptist College was moved from Lebanon to Bolivar in 1880. A

month-long revival in January saw the congregation more than double, including the baptism of 28 people on February 8, 1880.

By 1888, the church's name had been changed to the First Baptist Church, and membership continued to increase as the town and nearby college grew in population. In 1897 an entirely new building, complete with baptistry and gravity furnace, was in place. It was wired for electricity in 1901. It was replaced in 1926 with larger quarters on the northern half of Block #32 as Sunday school enrollments and congregational growth demanded expanded educational quarters. Other expansions came in 1959 and in the early 1980s.

The character of the First Baptist Church in Bolivar has been shaped over the decades by its location in the bedrock center of the nation and its close relationship with Southwest Baptist University, where I had the privilege of serving as President before my tenure in Congress. Education and leadership have given the church a unique outlook on the world, its community and the good works it does in the Lord's name.

First Baptist is making plans for their 150th anniversary celebration events throughout the month of September. The anniversary theme is Celebrate God's Faithfulness—Yesterday, Today, Forever. As my former house of worship, I know the people of this congregation, their work ethic, their love of God and the strength of their faith as they serve their community and the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 687 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 324); "aye" on rollcall vote No. 688 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 310); "aye" on rollcall vote No. 689 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3123).

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010: This project, a SOCOM/Oklahoma State University collaboration, will perform testing, integration and commercialization of chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) and command, control, communications, computers, intelligence surveillance, reconnaissance (C4ISR) sensor-related technologies.

IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN
WILLIE GATHREL "BILL" HEFNER

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Willie Gathrel "Bill" Hefner. Bill was a unique Member of Congress and served with distinction as the Chair of the Military Construction Subcommittee for many years. Few Members could match his contribution to the defense of this country. He represented his congressional district well, but never lost sight of national goals, whether those dealt with education, law enforcement, or defense. Many times he would sit on the floor listening intently to debate and he became one of the best extemporaneous speakers that ever served in Congress. Madam Speaker, Bill Hefner was a good friend and an outstanding American.

CELEBRATING THE FRANKLIN
SCHOOL 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, this evening, the Franklin School in Bergenfield will celebrate 100 years of exceptional education offered in New Jersey's 5th District. Erected in 1908, Franklin School arose to meet the need for a notable educational facility within this expanding community in Bergen County. Its humble beginnings were made up of a \$15,000 budget and only 10 students grades K-12. Since then, Franklin School has grown to a diverse group of 365 students from grades K-5 that captures the excellence of what Bergen County students have to offer. With a dedicated teaching staff, Franklin School has found new and exciting strategies for enabling its students to excel in all areas of their instruction. Their mission is to put children first and this directive has given incentive to provide the student body with the necessary tools and guidance to obtain success. With laptop labs to teach communication skills, learning centers to further judge and improve performance, and performance measures put in place to continually improve all educational offerings delivered to those who attend, Franklin School has established the gold standard in educational offerings.

The Franklin School is an exceptional educational facility that has nurtured and sent forth successful students for the past 100 years. I am proud of its accomplishments and expect great things from those who have been offered invaluable guidance from this notable school. Because of committed administrators and selfless teachers who have put their time and effort into the educational program offered to their students, Franklin School has made this community in my district a better place. I wish all the very best to the Franklin School and all its staff and students in their next 100 years to come.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3293, The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2010.

Project Name: FGCU Impact of Freshwater Flow into Coastal Waters—FGCU Coastal Watershed Institute

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3293, The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Higher Education (includes FIPSE) Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd., South, Fort Myers, FL 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$350,000; Florida's coast is a principal economic driver attracting millions of tourists and thousands of residents to the coastal communities of Southwest Florida. Proper management of the freshwater that the coastal environment receives is critical to preventing toxic algal blooms and negative impacts on recreational and commercial fisheries. FGCU is requesting federal funding for their Coastal Watershed Institute to address the impacts associated with changes in the freshwater flows into the area. This project is geared to students learning about future management of our fragile ecosystems.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I am continuing to recover from back surgery. Yesterday, I missed 3 votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows.

Rollcall No. 687, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 324, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 688, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 310, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 689, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3123, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING DONNA GARSKE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Donna Garske for her deep commitment to ending violence against women. Congratulations to Donna as she celebrates this mile-

stone of three decades of service to the Marin Abused Women's Services, and the survivors of domestic violence that the organization serves.

Through her leadership, Donna has raised awareness of the importance and prominence of domestic violence in Marin County and beyond. As a result of her devoted efforts, abused and battered women and girls have increased access to safety and justice.

The enthusiasm and passion she exhibits for her work is truly commendable. From her directorship of the Marin Abused Women's Services, to her service with the California Alliance Against Domestic Violence and her scholastic focus on abuse prevention, she has remained an influential and inspiring leader.

Donna's work on behalf of women knows no borders. With the Network of East/West Women, Donna creates dialogue with women in Eastern/Central Europe and the former Soviet Union about violence against women. Earlier in her career, Donna's passion and commitment took her to the Institute for the Study of Male Violence at Stirling University in Scotland where she studied violence issues.

Since her early work as a counselor at the Women's Transitional Living Center and board member of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Donna's advocacy on behalf of women remains firm and strong.

Madam Speaker, Donna Garske's unstinting dedication to ending violence against women shows citizens in our community the power one person has to make an important difference. Over the years, it has truly been a pleasure for me to work with her. Thank you, Donna, and congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO HARRIET BUCY

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, Jr.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I want to call the attention of the House to the remarkable life and work of Harriet Bucky, because it is inspiring and a shining model of what citizenship in a democracy is all about.

When Harriet Bucky died on May 8, 2008, she left a void in her community. She was one of those rare individuals who seem to have more energy and enterprise than the rest of us. Only a week before her death, the City Council of Rock Hill recognized Harriet Bucky for her role in having Rock Hill selected among the one hundred best communities in America for young people. Accomplishments like these will last long after her.

Harriet Bucky was an artist and used her passion for art to teach it to others. Her spirit and ability as a teacher won her the notice of school district officials, and she was drafted for a succession of assignments. In each, it became clear that she had a gift for inspiring and managing others.

Harriet Bucky was a founder of the Rock Hill School District Foundation, and helped it build a network of support, and provide numerous teachers with thousands of dollars in scholarship grants. Like other institutions she created, it carries on.

Harriet Bucky started the Community and Leadership Support Program, better known as CLASP, and continued forging relationships

between schools and organizations in the community. Governor Riley's Education Improvement Act mandated more involvement between schools and community, without specifying how these relationships were to be created. Harriet Bucy built the model that worked, not only in Rock Hill but in other districts who came to see what Rock Hill had accomplished under her guidance.

I have attached a eulogy in tribute to Harriet Bucy published in the Herald, shortly after her death, and ask that it be printed after my statement, as a memorial to this woman "with an overarching ability of bringing people together."

[From the Herald, Sept. 9, 2009]

BUCY SERVED COMMUNITY

Harriet Bucy always contended that a community partnership was more than just a financial contribution. A real partnership involved families, business and industry, clubs, the faith community and organizations.

Bucy, who died Thursday at the age of 69, proved how important such a partnership could be during her 23 years as the Rock Hill school district's first community leadership director. That partnership has endured.

The Rock Hill school district was among the first in the state to fully embrace mandates in the 1984 Education Improvement Act to involve parents, businesses and the community more in schools. But the EIA did not provide a blueprint for how to do that and, when Bucy signed on, she practically had to invent her own job.

Fortunately, she was not at all reluctant to do that. One goal was to bring in donations, and she was particularly adept at the business end of the job, soliciting millions of dollars worth of donations and volunteer hours each year.

But she also had taught private art classes while her three sons were growing up and had taught art and history at Rawlinson Road Middle School from 1982 to 1985 when the school was a junior high school. So, she brought both a love of art and a passion for educating children to the job.

She worked with Rock Hill Clean & Green to create an environmental education and recycling program. She worked with what then was the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce to sponsor an education initiative. She enlisted teachers and parents to create the Rock Hill Reads program.

Much of this came under the umbrella of CLASP, the district's Community Leadership and Support Program. Bucy also worked closely with the district's Dropout Prevention Network, New Teacher Institute and America's Promise project, and was active in civic work such as supporting the York County Museum.

Bucy soon was being consulted by other school districts in the state. Rock Hill's program became a model not only for school districts in the state but also nationwide.

Her overarching talent was an ability to bring together people from all parts of the community, from different backgrounds and different lifestyles, all for the purpose of furthering the quality of education. That good work has provided the foundation for programs that will continue to serve the needs of children for generations to come.

A grateful community joins her family and many friends in mourning her loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 31, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 685. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 685: No—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions, Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act.

CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTION COMPENSATION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 2009

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the following trade association letters are offered for the record in opposition to H.R. 3269 in order to supplement my remarks during debate:

JULY 30, 2009.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Re Opposition to H.R. 3269, Corporate and Financial Institutional Compensation Fairness Act of 2009.

The undersigned organizations strongly oppose H.R. 3269, the "Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009." We believe that the bill would result in substantial unintended consequences, especially the mandatory annual vote on pay requirement in section 2 and the precedent-setting authority granted to the federal government over executive and employee compensation in section 4. In sum, we believe the bill would result in a "one-size-fits-all" approach to compensation that would have substantial negative implications for proper functioning of the corporate governance process, responsible growth, and effective risk mitigation that, when coupled with other proposed legislation, would extend well beyond the financial services industry.

Each of our organizations fully supports effective measures to increase awareness and mitigation of excessive risk in compensation. We believe that the board of directors, acting through an independent compensation committee, should be responsible for setting compensation because it is so closely linked to business strategy and succession planning. While many have developed and circulated principles to improve compensation and corporate governance, companies across all industries are taking steps to reinforce their understanding of these issues and are taking action to revise practices that may encourage excessive risk taking. Many of these changes, such as majority voting for directors, independent compensation committees, advisory Say on Pay votes, eliminating staggered boards, have been occurring on a company by company basis for a long period of time, without government mandates.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER COMPENSATION

We oppose Section 4 of the bill because it would give the bank regulatory agencies authority to set the structure and thus the amount of executive and employee compensation provided in the form of incentives.

While recognizing the federal government's role in ensuring the safety and soundness of our financial institutions, these provisions would effectively transfer authority for determining how a substantial part of compensation at these firms should be structured from the Board (for executives) and the company (for other employees) to a consortium of regulatory agencies. Our concerns include:

The adoption of a one-size-fit all approach, which does not accommodate a company-specific approach to pay. The financial industry is expansive, and an incentive structure that may be deemed risky at one organization may be perfectly acceptable at another, depending on the company's business strategy, the risk profile of the organization, and mitigating elements of the total pay program. The legislation instructs the agencies to take a one-size fits all approach by prohibiting pay structures that "could threaten the safety and soundness of covered financial institutions."

Even if a company-specific approach were taken, the federal government has neither the experience nor expertise to set executive compensation arrangements for a wide variety of financial institutions. The legislation will replace the informed judgment of the board of directors and compensation committee with the cursory knowledge of a federal regulator, eroding the authority of the board and its ability to closely tailor compensation to the company.

The Obama Administration did not ask for such expansive authority, no doubt a result of the interpretive and enforcement problems created by the poorly crafted executive compensation restrictions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which caused several companies to shift more pay to guaranteed salary, rather than reasonable performance-based incentives, in order to comply.

In addition, because our associations represent companies across a variety of industries, we are also extremely concerned that this model of pay regulation would expand to other industries or situations, further putting the federal government in control of pay decisions for private companies. This legislation would establish a form of compensation regulation for employees who interact with consumers. Rather than creating a new bureaucracy, we believe a more effective approach to regulating risk in incentives would be to establish a clear set of principles for mitigating risk against which the regulatory agencies could review pay arrangements.

A MANDATORY ANNUAL VOTE ON PAY

Beyond section 4 of the bill, we also oppose an annual mandatory shareholder vote on executive compensation because it does not achieve the ends sought by proponents, is not sought by a majority of shareholders, and would not improve clear communication between shareholders and the board. While we oppose the requirement embodied in H.R. 3269, there may be viable alternatives that were unable to be explored with the limited time frame taken by the House Financial Services Committee in considering this legislation.

The Board of Directors has a fiduciary duty for managing the company on behalf of all shareholders. The board's compensation committee is responsible for linking compensation incentives to confidential business strategy, aligning pay with the assessment of individual executive performance, and using long-term incentives to support the company's succession planning process. Annual say on pay votes would push compensation structures away from a company-specific approach to "cookie-cutter" arrangements designed to ensure a high vote total.

Despite the economic environment, shareholder resolutions seeking a say on pay have only received a majority support at roughly 30 percent of the companies at which they were offered in 2009. A 2008 independent study by a leading academic found that among large institutional investors, only 25 percent supported a shareholder vote.

An annual mandatory vote requirement in the United Kingdom has not reduced the overall level of compensation and has resulted in less of a link between pay and performance.

Congressional attempts to regulate amounts or structures of compensation have typically backfired—increasing compensation or changing practices in unforeseen ways contrary to the intent of the restrictions. One need look no further than the history of stock options as a case study of this premise. While we oppose H.R. 3269 in its current form, because the legislation has been available for only a short time, we believe that more time is warranted to give Congress and interested parties an opportunity to fully analyze and discuss the potential for harmful unintended consequences.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. We look forward to working with you on this and other legislation.

Sincerely,

Center for Executive Compensation, National Association of Manufacturers, Retail Industry Leaders Association, U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, July 27, 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK AND RANKING MEMBER BACHUS: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, believes that strong corporate governance is an important part of the foundation for a vibrant and growing economy. In February, the Chamber issued a Statement of Principles providing, among other things, that executive compensation should balance individual accomplishment, corporate performance, adherence to risk management, compliance with laws and regulations, and the creation of shareholder value. The complete Statement of Principles is attached. The Chamber opposes H.R. 3269, the "Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009," because it is inconsistent with these Principles.

Section 4 of H.R. 3269, particularly when read in conjunction with the compensation provisions proposed in H.R. 3126, the "Consumer Fairness Protection Agency Act of 2009," would establish direct government control and regulation of compensation for executives and workers alike. Employee compensation should be a decision by appropriate levels of management or the board of directors on a variety of factors such as merit, promotions, or cost of living increases. Furthermore, changes in corporate governance should occur through a dialogue between management, directors, and shareholders, as allowed by controlling state corporate law. The Chamber does not believe that the command and control regulatory scheme set forth in this legislation would lead to the economic growth and job creation that America desperately needs.

The Chamber is particularly concerned with a number of provisions in H.R. 3269 and offers the following recommendations:

1. This legislation would have federal agencies regulate the compensation of a vast number of employees of covered firms. Pursuant to H.R. 3269, financial services firms would be required to submit practices and plans for incentive compensation for employees to their appropriate regulator. The regulator would then have the authority to approve or disapprove such plan, as well as take action for violations. In many firms, because incentive compensation plans range from the CEO to the receptionist, these provisions would place the federal government in the position of regulating compensation for all, or a vast majority of, employees in a company. This would be particularly intrusive when coupled with the provisions of H.R. 3126 which would allow the proposed Consumer Financial Protection Agency to regulate the compensation of employees who interact with consumers, regardless of industry, such as real estate agents, or even cashiers who accept credit cards. Taken together, these two proposed bills constitute an unprecedented governmental intrusion into matters that have historically been addressed by private actors.

2. The "Say on Pay" provisions can be improved by making the votes triennial and providing for a 5-year opt-out if approved by a super-majority of shareholders. The Chamber believes that the "Say on Pay" provisions of H.R. 3269 can be improved. Currently, the bill requires an annual advisory vote at every company in the United States, regardless of size, industry, history, and governance. Rather, Congress should require such an advisory vote every three years, thereby tracking the typical life-span of an average executive compensation package. This change would give shareholders a more informed voice in the executive compensation policies of a company. The Chamber also believes that adding an opt-out provision is warranted. For example, if two-thirds of shareholders vote for a 5-year opt-out of "Say on Pay" votes, small and mid-size companies would be able to mitigate the undue costs and distractions associated with an annual vote.

3. Federal Law should not create a preemption if state corporate law contains mechanisms for independent compensation committees. State corporate law has fostered a diverse set of corporate governance structures that have allowed the American economy to be the richest and most productive in world history. While the governance structures of some financial services firms have been questioned, 97 percent of the more than 15,000 public companies in the United States have had nothing to do with the financial crisis. Accordingly, the Chamber believes that the legislation should not preempt state law.

The Chamber believes these recommendations would represent significant improvements to the bill and assist in providing strong corporate governance policies needed for a growing economy.

The Chamber also supports the Garrett substitute amendment to the bill, which would allow for improved Say on Pay and Independent Compensation Committee provisions, while stripping Section 4 of the bill. Finally, the Chamber supports the Garrett amendment to strike Section 4 of the bill, removing those provisions that would regulate incentive compensation practices.

The Chamber strongly supports corporate governance reforms in line with our Statement of Principles, but urges you to oppose H.R. 3269 because it is inconsistent with these Principles on corporate governance.

Sincerely,

R. BRUCE JOSTEN.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS,
Arlington, VA, July 28, 2009.

Re Comments on H.R. 3269 as pending in mark-up.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK AND RANKING MEMBER BACHUS: Mr. Chairman, I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU), the only trade association that exclusively represents the interests of our nation's federal credit unions, in conjunction with H.R. 3269, the Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009 as amended so far in mark-up.

NAFCU continues to oppose the bill, as amended, in its current form. While the adoption of the Hensarling amendment, exempting institutions under \$1 billion in assets from the scope of Section 4 of the legislation was a step in the right direction, we continue to urge the Committee to amend this legislation so that it does not apply to credit unions.

As not-for-profit, member-owned cooperatives, credit unions were not the cause of the current financial crisis. The success of the credit union industry in this regard can be attributed not only to its structure and nature, but to the fact that credit unions, unlike for-profit entities, are singularly focused on service to their members and do not chase stock returns. In fact, credit unions do not issue stock at all. Furthermore, they are governed by a volunteer board of credit union member directors that serve generally without remuneration and ultimately decide the compensation for key employees of the credit union. It is therefore critical that non-profits be treated differently than for-profit entities.

Quite frankly, those running for-profit entities, including community banks, have a profit motive that can open the door for abuse. In stark contrast, not-for-profit cooperatives quite simply have different motives, which substantially lessen the incentive for abuse.

NAFCU continues to believe that the inclusion of credit unions as covered institutions under Section 4 of the legislation and provisions requiring NCUA to prescribe joint regulations in conjunction with other regulators who supervise for-profit, stock-issuing entities, does not make sense. Simply stated, credit unions are not guided by the profit motive or stock price manipulation to which this legislation is aimed.

It is with that in mind that we continue to oppose the legislation in its current form and urge the Committee to amend Section 4 of H.R. 3269 to exempt credit unions from this legislation. Without a current amendment pending before the Committee to do this, we would support adoption of either the Neugebauer or Castle amendments to strike Section 4 of the bill. Conversely, if Section 4 is maintained by the Committee, we would urge further amending H.R. 3269 to exempt credit unions from Section 4 prior to consideration on the House floor. If one of these changes were to be made, NAFCU could support the legislation going forward.

NAFCU appreciates the opportunity to share our thoughts on this important topic and we look forward to working with you and your staff to address our concerns.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me or Brad Thaler,

NAFCU's Director of Legislative Affairs.

Sincerely,

FRED R. BECKER, Jr.,
President/CEO.

—
CUNA,
Washington, DC, July 24, 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK AND RANKING MEMBER BACHUS: On behalf of the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), I am writing regarding H.R. 3269, the Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009. CUNA represents nearly 90 percent of America's 8,000 credit unions and their 92 million members.

We understand the concern some have regarding the effect compensation structures that encourage excessive risk-taking have on the safety of financial institutions and the economy. We applaud efforts to address these egregious practices. However, as the Committee prepares to consider H.R. 3269 next week, we encourage you to exclude credit unions from the scope of the bill. The credit union structure combined with strong compensation regulations already in place have resulted in credit unions being largely immune from both excessive and unsafe risk-taking and from the criticism assigned to for-profit financial services providers; thus, the inclusion of credit unions under H.R. 3269 is unwarranted.

As you know, credit unions are unique, member-owned, not-for-profit, financial co-operatives, and they simply do not have the same operational motives as for-profit depository institutions. As a result, credit unions are risk-averse institutions operating in the best interest of their members. Further, the compensation structure of credit unions is not only less aggressive than the for-profit financial institutions, it is also more modest. According to our most recent survey of our members, the median salary for a credit union CEO is approximately \$71,000; the average salary is approximately \$93,000.

The National Credit Union Administration Board (NCUA) already has compensation regulations in place that are designed to prevent the types of dangerous compensation structures that exist in other sectors. These include Section 701.21(c) of NCUA's Rules and Regulations, restricting compensation related to loans to members and lines of credit to members; Section 701.33, restricting compensation to credit union board members; and Section 712.8, restricting compensation to credit union employees or board members from credit union service organizations in which the credit union has an outstanding loan or investment.

We believe that H.R. 3269, if applied to credit unions, would at best be duplicative of current regulations and at worse could increase the cost and regulatory burden on a sector of the financial services industry that neither caused the economic crisis nor engaged in the type of compensation arrangements that this legislation seeks to address. Therefore, we cannot support this legislation in its current form and we would welcome the opportunity to work with you and others on the Financial Services Committee to amend the legislation to exclude credit unions.

On behalf of America's credit unions and their 92 million members, thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DANIEL A. MICA,
President & CEO.

THE FINANCIAL
SERVICES ROUNDTABLE,
Washington, DC, July 23, 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK AND RANKING MEMBER BACHUS: The House Financial Services Committee is scheduled to mark up H.R. 3269, the Corporate and Financial Institution Compensation Fairness Act of 2009, on Tuesday morning. The Financial Services Roundtable supports the spirit of this legislation, and the mutual goals of promoting corporate accountability and good governance practices; however, we must oppose H.R. 3269. Compensation programs are an important tool in the financial services industry used to recruit and retain skilled employees. These programs should be aligned with the overall safety and soundness of the organization as well as shareholder interest. The Roundtable supports and promotes such goals as outlined in our Principles on Executive Compensation (see attached).

We have serious concerns about H.R. 3269 as drafted, including the requirement for Federal regulators to determine the types of compensation structures that are appropriate for financial institutions. Decisions regarding incentive compensation programs should be designed uniquely by corporations and their compensation committees to account for respective shareholder interest; long term sustainable, firm-wide success; and the time horizon of risks. Federal regulators currently require disclosure on the details and types of executive compensation arrangements, and specific to financial institutions, require that such arrangements be consistent with safety and soundness guidelines. The Roundtable believes the existing authority currently being exercised by Federal regulators is appropriate and in line with protecting consumer and shareholder interests alike.

We appreciate your review and consideration of these concerns as the committee prepares to consider H.R. 3269. Please feel free to call on me if I can be of assistance or answer any questions.

Best Regards,

STEVE BARTLETT,
President and CEO.

—
CENTER ON EXECUTIVE
COMPENSATION,
Washington, DC, July 27, 2009.

Re H.R. 3269, Corporate and Financial Institutional Compensation Fairness Act of 2009.

Hon. BARNEY FRANK,
Chairman, House Financial Services Committee,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Hon. SPENCER BACHUS,
Ranking Member, House Financial Services Committee, Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FRANK AND RANKING MEMBER BACHUS: On behalf of the Center on Executive Compensation, I am writing to express the Center's opposition to H.R. 3269 because of the far-ranging effects it will have on the U.S. system of corporate governance and effective compensation policies. We are particularly concerned about the provisions of the bill that impose an annual mandatory vote on pay and direct the Federal government to prohibit compensation arrangements in the financial services industry.

As you know, the Center is a research and advocacy organization that seeks to provide

a reasoned perspective on executive compensation policy and practice issues from the viewpoint of the senior human resource officers of large companies. The Center's public policy positions are developed with the help of its Subscribers to ensure a practical view that is also informed by its principles. The Center believes that a Board-centric approach to developing and disclosing a clear link between pay and performance and for mitigating excessive risk in executive compensation plans is far preferable to having pay set by the Federal government.

Mandated Annual Vote On Pay Will Weaken Corporate Governance. The Center opposes mandated annual shareholder vote on executive compensation in Section 2 of the bill because it would encourage the adoption of "cookie cutter" pay arrangements rather than arrangements carefully tailored to the company and is not sought by a majority of shareholders. Specifically, a mandatory vote on pay:

Would Move the U.S. Toward a System of Governance by Referendum. Boards of Directors, acting through an independent compensation committee, discharge their fiduciary duty to manage executive compensation on behalf of all shareholders by tying the amount and form of compensation to confidential business strategy, evaluating individual executive performance and using pay levers to manage the company's succession planning process. A mandatory vote on pay seeks to substitute the judgment of the shareholders for the informed judgment of the Board and is likely to open the door to more shareholder votes on other issues, such as where to expand or research and development decisions.

Would Result in a Cookie-Cutter Approach to Pay. In order to have an informed view on pay, institutional investors and others faced with an annual nonbinding vote on pay would be required to analyze 30-50 pages of disclosure for thousands of companies. Many will rely instead on the recommendation of proxy advisory services, which have their own views of how pay should be structured. In order to ensure substantial support, compensation committees will adopt pay arrangements designed to get a high vote rather than be tailored to the company.

Fails to Recognize That a Majority of Shareholders Have Not Supported Shareholder Resolutions in 2009. Despite the current economic environment, shareholder resolutions asking companies to adopt an annual vote on pay have not received majority support on average, with only 30 percent of the votes receiving majority support.

Ignores Research Results That Show the Largest Institutional Investors Do Not Favor Say on Pay. A 2008 research study by Cornell University Professor Kevin Hallock of large institutional investors showed that 50 percent opposed say on pay while just 25 percent supported it. Responses such as the following were typical "It is not clear A, what we are voting on and B, what others are voting on. We can have a much more individual discussion and nuanced discussion" [with the Board].

Has Not Reduced Pay Levels in the UK An annual mandatory vote requirement in the United Kingdom has not reduced the overall level of compensation (the FTSE 100 experienced a 7% pay increase in 2008, while in the U.S., the S&P 500 experienced a 6.8 percent decline) and has resulted in less of a link between pay and performance.

Government Control Over Compensation Sets A Dangerous Precedent. The Center also opposes Section 4 of the legislation and believes it should be removed in favor of a principles-based approach to mitigating excessive risk in incentives. Section 4 would give the Federal banking regulatory agencies the extraordinary authority to prohibit pay structures and arrangements for executives and individuals as well as pass judgment on specific compensation arrangements. Because the impact of different pay structures will have different effects based on the risk profile of the organization, the time horizon of the products or services sold and other considerations, banning all pay structures across the entire industry is likely to have significant unintended consequences and sets a dangerous precedent for federal regulation of compensation in other contexts.

We are also concerned that the proposed disclosure will result in a one-size-fits-all approach to compensation. There are six regulators responsible for developing and implementing the prohibitions and acceptable practices required in the bill. So far, they have not been able to agree on their respective responsibilities under the forthcoming regulatory restructuring. With this in mind, it is likely that in order to come to agreement on the pay practices that should be banned, the regulators will need to adopt a standardized approach to acceptable executive compensation arrangements and therefore mute the ability of companies to set forth a reasoned and reasonable approach to pay for performance.

The Center fully supports the mitigation of risk in incentives, as articulated in the attached checklist for compensation committees. The Center believes that mitigating risk is a matter of balance on a number of fronts, including balance among the type of metrics measuring performance, balance between short- and long-term compensation and balance in ensuring incentives focus on the time horizon of risk. These are decisions best made by the Board Compensation Committee and disclosed in the annual proxy statement. As you know, the SEC is in the process of enhancing its disclosures of excessive risk in incentives for employees and executives that covers all employers.

Finally, it is worth noting that previous well-intended Congressional attempts to regulate amounts or structures of compensation have typically backfired—increasing compensation or changing practices in unforeseen ways contrary to the intent of the restrictions. A good example is the executive compensation restrictions included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which encourage greater salaries, rather than a careful pay for performance orientation. Because H.R. 3269 has been available for only one week, we believe that more time is warranted to give the Committee and interested parties an opportunity to fully analyze and discuss the potential for harmful unintended consequences.

Thank you for your consideration of our views. We look forward to working with you on this and other legislation.

Sincerely yours,

TIMOTHY J. BARTL,
Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

HONORING TOM AND DAVE
SCHOETTTLER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tom and

Dave Schoettler upon being named by the Madera District Chamber of Commerce as a 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award Honorees. They will be recognized on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at the Fifth Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards and Installation Dinner.

Tom was born in Glendale, California and Dave was born in Fresno, California to Hal and Loretta Schoettler. They are two of six children; they were business partners, allies and friends. They both attended Madera High School and participated in athletics; Tom graduated in 1950 and Dave graduated in 1951.

During high school Tom began working for his father at Schoettler Tire; this is where he met his future wife, Ila. He joined the United States Navy after high school and was stationed at Camp Pendleton. Tom was recognized with the Honor Man of Unit Award while in the Navy. He served as a Dental Technician and considered a dental career; however when he exited the Navy, his father needed him at the store. Tom went back to work at Schoettler Tire and is still working there today.

After high school, Dave attended the University of California, Berkeley. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Business and was a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Dave married his wife, Dwyann and he entered the United States Air Force. He served as Captain of the B-47 Bomber squadron. Dave and Dwyann were stationed in Homestead, Florida. Upon fulfilling his duty with the Air Force, he returned to central California to own and operate a tire business in Coalinga and on the central coast.

In 1974 Tom and Dave became partners in Schoettler Tire of Madera. The business, currently in the third generation on family partnership, has changed locations a few times but it is still family owned and operated. Dave and Tom operated Schoettler Tire for thirty-four years focusing on the values that were instilled in them by their father: integrity, honesty and loyalty. These values led Schoettler Tire to not only be the largest tire company in the area, but a leader in the industry for excellence in customer service.

Tom and Dave have been active in the community. Tom is a member of the American Legion, Italian American Club, St. Joachim's Church, Boy Scouts and the Knights of Columbus, where he served as Grand Knight. For his service he has been recognized by Heartland Opportunity. Dave served on the National Board of Tire Companies, was a member of Madera Elks, served as President of Phi Kappa Tau and was an alumnus of UC Berkeley. Schoettler Tire actively supports and is a member of the Madera Chamber of Commerce and has received numerous awards in the tire industry for sales and customer service. Beyond the time that both men have given to the community, they have also both been financially generous to many local clubs and organizations.

Tom and Ila have been married for fifty-six years. They have five sons, twenty grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Dave and Dwyann had been married for fifty years when Dave passed away in 2008. They have two sons, a daughter and six grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tom and Dave Schoettler upon being honored as the Madera Chamber of Commerce 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Tom and Dave's family many years of continued success.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. The ASSET program develops, tests, and transfers cost-effective logistics support technologies to reduce the costs associated with support of aging weapon systems and aircraft. The program addresses DOD needs for procuring replacement parts for aging systems and aircraft, and helps DOD confront problems associated with corrosion.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3226, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010:

I received \$3,000,000 for Trex Enterprises at 10455 Pacific Center Court, San Diego, CA 92121. Funding for this program will be used to complete development, flight testing and integration of the Brownout MMW Sensor that will reduce aircraft accident risk and allow aircrew visibility through the full range of landing and take-off operations in otherwise extremely hazardous flight conditions. "Brownout" is a situation Army aviators experience in combat operations daily in Iraq and Afghanistan. Created by helicopter rotor downwash, it continues to cause aircraft accidents and remains a high risk to flight safety.

Specifically, as aircraft approach the ground, a thick plume of brown desert dust, dirt and sand disturbed by high velocity winds from rotor systems engulf the aircraft, causing a complete loss of the pilot's visual reference to the ground. The Brownout Situational Awareness Sensor, BSAS, is a cockpit display system capable of providing the aircrew visibility through the blowing sand and dust. This technology will greatly reduce the loss of aviator lives, loss of aircraft and reduce the amount of maintenance requirements resulting in damages from Brownout situations. Brownout is among the biggest hazards to rotary-wing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, contributing to more than 71 U.S. helicopter accidents. Providing this capability is critical to aircrew safety and combat readiness.

I also received \$2,000,000 for CHI Systems at 12860 Danielson Court, Suite A, Poway, CA 92064. There is currently insufficient training provided to soldiers on the most crucial battlefield lifesaving situations. Medics and soldiers, in many instances, lack the experience to act swiftly and effectively in combat casualty situation. By combining instrumented manikin parts that support hands-on practice with computer based scenario training, this funding will complete the HapMed Combat Medic Trainer development and provide medics and soldiers

the ability to practice critical lifesaving tasks. In addition to providing realistic training scenarios, HapMed is also portable, so soldiers can continue to train while they are deployed. This system has received high praise in its ability to train soldiers for medical treatment on the battlefield. According to a Science and Technology Manager for the Army, "New technologies such as HapMed are needed to provide medics with greater opportunities to develop and test their decision making and technical medical skills."

New Army recruits must receive training in Buddy Aid or as Combat Life Savers (CLS). Currently, insufficient training is provided to help soldiers and medics acquire and maintain some of the crucial battlefield lifesaving skills such as tourniquet application, needle chest decompression, and emergency cricothyrotomy, addressing, respectively, the top three causes of preventable death on the battlefield. In order to perform these lifesaving functions under battlefield conditions, military personnel must have the awareness and confidence to act swiftly and effectively.

Further, I received \$1,500,000 for General Atomics Aeronautical Systems at 14200 Kirkham Way, Poway, CA 92064. The Predator C has been designed and developed as the next generation aircraft in the extremely successful Predator series Unmanned Aircraft System. Predator C was designed in order to make the airplane more survivable in higher threat areas and to provide the U.S. Air Force with an armed reconnaissance capability that will be able to fly into many areas around the world undetected.

Predator C is slightly larger than Predator B and is capable of carrying 2000 pounds of the same mix of weapons as Predator B. Predator C will provide the U.S. Air Force with additional covert capability, enhanced by much higher operational and transit speeds for quick response and quick repositioning for improved mission flexibility and survivability. This system also provides variations in signature reduction technologies. Furthermore, Predator C means more jobs contributing to San Diego's local economy while providing the men and women on the ground the resources they need to accomplish their mission.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3326—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010.

Defense Critical Languages and Cultures Initiative—(Center for Security Studies) Angelo State University. The funding would be used for the University's Center for Security Studies which will produce cross culturally competent students able to understand and influence outcomes in support of American national security objectives. The Center for Security Studies will directly benefit Goodfellow Air Force Base by providing an educational degree completion for faculty as well as research opportunities on existing and emerging Air Force language, cul-

ture and intelligence requirements. Extra instructional capacity for Goodfellow Air Force Base in Mandarin and Arabic is also achieved. The project is located at Angelo State University, 2601 W. Avenue N, San Angelo, TX 76909.

Mobile Firing Range for the Texas Army National Guard. The Mobile Firing Range is a self contained range that allows for the firing of pistol and rifle systems for the Texas National Guard. Currently there is no opportunity to fire weapons for training or qualification without traveling to a certified range on a military installation. The Texas National Guard currently does not have access to any indoor ranges that can be used to fire the M16/M4 which is the current armament for 90 percent of the soldiers within the Texas National Guard. The Mobile Firing Range will allow soldiers to train with their assigned weapons at home station. This system is a training and force multiplier due to the negation of travel and lodging, and staging needed when conducting this training on a military facility. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas National Guard, 2200 West 35th Street, Austin, TX 78763.

Center for Hetero-Functional Materials. The U.S. Army Research and Laboratory Material and Devices division has deemed the Center for Hetero-Functional Materials, CHM, as critical to developing next generation devices for the military. CHM provides the infrastructure and resources required for research and development of new materials and processes that will be required for the fabrication of next generation military devices. This initiative integrates multiple disciplines to help produce a new range of materials that will lead to new devices with unprecedented capabilities. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas State University at San Marcos, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666.

Compact Pulsed Power Initiative. This funding would be used for the development of explosive or battery-operated, compact, high-power radiation sources and associated antenna systems capable of destroying electronics used for radars, communications, computer, or remote detonation devices, and others that can disable car engines. The information gained from this research will be significant in furthering our nation's defense capabilities especially in the area of disabling and destroying IEDs. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas Tech University, 2500 Broadway, mail stop 3121, TX 79409.

Field Deployable Hologram Production System. This funding would be used for completing development of a compact production unit that produces 3D holographic imagery for mission planning and intelligence purposes for U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Army requests a self-contained, field-deployable EHI production system to accelerate imagery delivery to combat forces. The goal is a more efficient, cost effective production system that provides the deployed war fighter needed planning and intelligence capabilities on a much faster basis. The entity to receive funding for this project is Zebra Imaging, Inc, 9801 Metric Blvd, Austin, TX 78758.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 691, I was inadvertently delayed.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RECOGNIZING OHIO NATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the One Hundred Year Anniversary of Ohio National Financial Services. On this day one century ago, Ohio National began operating in its original home on Fourth Street in downtown Cincinnati. Their first policy was issued in October a year later.

Today, Ohio National continues a proud tradition as a community leader. In celebration of this century of service to our community, Ohio National is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build 10 houses over the next five years—one house for each decade of their commitment to Cincinnati.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Ohio National Financial Services 100th Anniversary and in wishing them continued success in the future.

REMEMBERING THE ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, eight years after the attacks of September 11, 2001, we remember one of the bloodiest days in our nation's history with heavy hearts and tragic regret. I am once again reminded of the heroes that selfishly gave their lives so that others could make it to safety, and today we mourn their passing. We remember, too, the victims who were so sadly ripped from our lives by one of the most senseless acts of violence our country has even seen. Today, I share in the grief of a country and extend my deepest condolences to the friends and family of those that passed on that solemn day.

As I think back to that painful morning, I remember how a sunny Tuesday unfolded into a series of events that has shaped our national conscious and affected us in ways that we had no longer thought possible. We were reminded that there is still hate in the world. We were reminded that there still exists the possibility of great tragedy in our country. And we were reminded that we were vulnerable to the problems that exist beyond our shores.

However, on that grim day, we saw an America that stood proudly and bravely and an America that came together under difficult

circumstances. We must not forget that liberty, justice, and fairness are some of our greatest ideals, and we must continue to strive towards these goals, even in the face of tragic situations.

I would like to remember, too, a constituent of mine who lost his life in the attacks. Michael E. Tinley happened to be working in the World Trade Center on that morning, and I offer my deepest condolences to his friends and family. Truly, I mourn with you.

Today, I join my fellow colleagues in honoring the victims who died on September 11, 2001. We remember these events with great sadness but new resolve, and as we continue our work, we will never forget the loss that we felt that day.

IN REMEMBRANCE AND HONOR OF
MICHAEL HORTON

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's 7th Congressional District to express our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Michael Horton and to recognize his numerous achievements.

Michael was an active and engaged member of our local community with his service to our nation in the military, work at his animal hospital and spirit of community volunteerism.

Michael Horton served our nation bravely as a colonel in the United States Air Force and he cared for the animals of our area for 28 years as the owner and president of the Fairborn Animal Hospital.

He founded Fairbornites Restoring Our Greene Spaces (F.R.O.G.S.) and showed his dedication to our community as the host of "Our Fairborn Heritage" and "Fairborn Plain and Simple" on local television. Michael also volunteered with Fairborn Parks and Recreation, Fairborn Heritage Days, Fairborn Police Advisory Board and the Fairborn Education Foundation.

My thoughts and prayers are with Michael's family and friends during this time of terrible loss.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR
RICHARD SCHIFTER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ambassador Richard Schifter—a friend and lifelong champion for human rights. His own harrowing experience as a Holocaust survivor has been foundational to his efforts on behalf of oppressed, persecuted people the world over.

In the coming weeks, Ambassador Schifter will be honored by Project Interchange and the American Jewish International Relations Institute for his multi-faceted and important work in this arena. I join them in marking his life-time achievements.

In his two decades of government service at the Department of State and the National Security Council, he never wavered in his support for democracy and human rights—bedrocks of the American experience which shamefully are too often relegated to the sidelines in our foreign policy establishment.

As a former U.S. representative in the United Nations Human Rights Commission and former deputy U.S. representative in the U.N. Security Council, he acquired a keen understanding of how the institution works, and some of the political and ideological forces at play including those which seek to undermine the United States and delegitimize the state of Israel. He has effectively spurred congressional action to help rally friendly nations to support the U.S. position at the U.N.

In a 2008 presentation at the University of Virginia Law School, he said, "As an immigrant rather than a native of the United States, let me tell you that I believe in the concept of American Exceptionalism."

I share this belief and would say that Ambassador Schifter is himself an exceptional American.

HOME HEALTHCARE CAN HELP
LOWER COSTS, IMPROVE RESULTS

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the Census Bureau currently estimates that our nation's elderly population will double between 2000 and 2050. And in my home state of North Carolina, the elderly population is growing much faster than the national average. As our population ages, a rising number of baby boomers will become susceptible to one or more chronic health conditions that will cost our Medicare system billions of dollars. At the same time, our citizens age 65 and over have expressed an overwhelming preference to live independently at home for as long as possible, among family and friends.

What is the solution? Since the elderly population overwhelmingly prefers to receive their healthcare at home and since such treatment is much more cost effective, our government should be investing in home healthcare.

Today, home healthcare is more than just basic, long-term care. It is much more advanced and sophisticated. Highly skilled nurses and therapists are already working within the existing Medicare system to help patients manage heart disease, diabetes, balance problems and other illnesses that, if not properly treated, can increase the cost to Medicare. Home health is helping many of these people stay out of expensive alternatives, and is allowing our seniors to remain at home where they ought to be.

With a rising older population, home healthcare programs that improve care, save money and are preferred by constituents are closely aligned with the government's objectives for health reform. Yet, provisions in the Democrat draft healthcare bill would cut \$51 billion from the Medicare home health program over the next decade. These reductions will have a detrimental effect on access to home care for our elderly population and could po-

tentially cost Medicare more by forcing people unnecessarily into other facility based care.

For these reasons, I believe we must oppose these cuts and lend our support to home healthcare.

REMEMBERING THE 9/11 ATTACKS
ON AMERICA

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, this week we pause to remember the nearly 3,000 Americans who lost their lives in New York, Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. There are no words that I or any of us can say that will take away the pain and grief of those who lost family members and friends during the attacks. Thousands from my district were among those who lost those dear to them at the World Trade Center. The memory of that terrible day remains fresh in the minds of those who live or work in New York City and Washington.

This year also marked the tragic passing of Beverly Eckert, who lost her husband Sean on 9/11 and who subsequently co-founded the Voices of September 11th advocacy organization, which played a critical role in pushing for the creation of the 9/11 Commission. Beverly was one of the passengers on Continental Airlines flight 3407, which crashed near Buffalo on February 12, 2009.

Today, we still owe Beverly Eckert and everyone else touched by the 9/11 attacks what we promised them: that we would reform our governmental institutions to help prevent future attacks and that the perpetrators of 9/11 would be brought to justice. Some progress has been made in making our country less vulnerable to future terrorist attacks, but much work remains to be done.

Our rail system is still needlessly vulnerable to the kinds of attacks that rocked London, Madrid, and Mumbai over the last several years. We have yet to screen 100 percent of the cargo entering our ports of entry and our "no fly lists" continue to contain the names of innocent Americans who are routinely detained for no legitimate reason while our porous borders remain a potential pathway for terrorists to enter our country. I will continue my work to eliminate these holes in our defenses and to press for changes in our foreign and defense policy that will help us to remove Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda as a threat to our people.

As we remember those who have died and seek to honor our commitments to them and their survivors, people all across America now can take part in a new way to honor the memory of those who perished on 9/11.

Earlier this year, the Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13). In addition to tripling national service volunteerism opportunities to 250,000 for everyone from students to retirees, this bipartisan law designated September 11 every year as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. I encourage all Americans to use September 11 to honor the victims and heroes of the 9/11 tragedy by serving their neighbors and communities.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. LINDER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding that I requested as part of H.R. 3288, the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Representative JOHN LINDER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288, the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Account: Federal Highway Administration Interstate Maintenance Discretionary

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Georgia Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 2 Capitol Square, S.W., Atlanta, GA 30334

Description of Request: This project will allow the Georgia Department of Transportation to make modifications to the I-85 interchange at Pleasant Hill Road. This will ease congestion and enhance access to I-85 for through traffic along Pleasant Hill Road. According to the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation, "the modifications will allow the interchange to meet increasing traffic demand along Pleasant Hill Road for travel across I-85, as well as to provide access to/from I-85 at adequate levels of service." Funding for this project will provide for preliminary engineering, environmental documentation, and right of way planning/acquisition phases to keep this plan on schedule and ease congestion.

MARKING PATH'S AWARD OF THE 2009 CONRAD N. HILTON HUMANITARIAN PRIZE

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Dr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I am proud and very pleased to rise today to inform the House of Representatives that the Washington State-based international nonprofit organization PATH has received the 2009 Hilton Humanitarian Prize—the world's largest humanitarian award—for its work to improve human health around the world. This annual award of \$1.5 million from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation acknowledges and advances the work of organizations dedicated to the relief of human suffering. Today, the Prize recognizes PATH's use of innovative technologies to solve global health problems. PATH is making an enormous difference in the health and lives of people around the world, and this award very appropriately affirms that work.

Headquartered in Seattle since its inception in 1977, PATH has helped to make Washington State an emerging center for global health solutions and life-changing innovations. PATH works in more than 70 countries to

tackle the most critical health issues, from malaria to HIV/AIDS to deadly childhood diseases. PATH shares its experience with policymakers and government partners through staff in its Washington, DC, and Bethesda, Maryland, offices.

PATH has pioneered sustainable, culturally relevant solutions to vexing health problems, enabling communities worldwide to break longstanding cycles of poor health. By collaborating with diverse public- and private-sector partners, PATH helps provide appropriate health technologies and vital strategies that change the way people think and act, and these changes, in turn, significantly improve global health and well-being.

PATH has received long-term support from the U.S. government throughout its life to develop health technologies for low-resource settings. It makes sure that industrialized-world solutions can be modified to serve developing countries and thereby maximize health equity. PATH has adapted, developed, or co-developed more than 85 technologies designed to improve the health and lives of people in low-resource countries, even in the most remote areas of the globe.

PATH's work to protect the lives of families and communities addresses international goals for improving maternal, newborn, and child health. For example, PATH paired the drug oxytocin—which can protect women from postpartum hemorrhage, the leading cause of maternal deaths—with its own invention, the Unijet device, a prefilled, single-use injection system. This combination allows women who give birth in rural health clinics or at home to receive a lifesaving dose of medicine when they desperately need it for survival. PATH also worked with a U.S. company to develop a small sticker called the vaccine vial monitor that changes color when temperature-sensitive vaccine has been exposed to heat, which often happens in resource-poor areas challenged with keeping medicines cool. This simple sticker means health workers don't have to guess whether vaccine has been damaged, and families can be assured their children are receiving potent, and often life-saving, vaccine.

These technologies are just two examples of how PATH provides imaginative solutions to ensure that important medicines and critical health interventions reach the people who need them most.

Profound health inequities persist around the world, but PATH's enlightening work shows us that solutions are at hand to solve the world's greatest health challenges. Please join me in applauding PATH's outstanding achievements and its selection as the winner of this year's Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

HONORING REGINALD PALMER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reginald R. Palmer. Sadly, Mr. Palmer passed away on August 3rd. His funeral was held in Flint, Michigan on August 15th.

Reginald Palmer was a member of Canaan Baptist Church, and served Our Lord, Jesus

Christ, through the Unity Choir and Canaan's Male Chorus. He was an attentive, conscientious member of his Church. His faithfulness to his Church community was a hallmark of his life.

His enthusiasm, hard work and resolute belief in a better world led him to become active in our political process. Reginald served as the Vice Chairperson for Precinct 20 and he knew and helped many of the residents of that area. He worked tirelessly for many years to elect candidates that would improve the lives of everyday citizens. Many elected officials, including Vera Rison, benefitted from Reginald's wisdom and loyalty. I have counted him among my supporters for many years and I will miss his insight and counsel.

He leaves behind his wife, Rosemary; daughters, Talishiya and Regina; and sons, Manus and Marshall; along with many other relatives and friends that bear witness to the good and fruitful life he lived.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and pay tribute to the passing of a great human being, a devoted servant of Our Lord, a determined worker for a better tomorrow, an excellent and loyal friend. I will deeply miss Reginald Palmer and it is with great sadness that I mourn his passing.

HONORING MS. BETTY WRIGHT

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and honor Ms. Betty Wright, South Florida's very own recording artist who continues to contribute greatly to the musical landscape of not only Miami-Dade County, but of the Nation through her artistry and musical talent. She has influenced a generation of female singer-songwriters, as well as the world of hip hop.

A native Miamian, Ms. Wright was born on December 21, 1953. She began her music career with her family in a gospel group called the Echoes of Joy. In 1965, she began switching to R&B music when she was only 11 years old. She released her first album, *My First Time Around*, in 1968. Her first hit single was "Girls Can't Do What Guys Can Do." Toward the end of 1971, Ms. Wright's single "Clean Up Woman" became a Top 5 Pop and R&B hit, which later influenced artist, Mary J. Blige's "Real Love" with the sample of its guitar riffs. The single also influenced R & B group, SWV's single "I'm So In To You"; Afrika Bambaataa's song, "Zulu War Chant"; and Sublime's "Get Out!" remix. Additionally, R&B artist, Beyoncé has sampled "Girls Can't Do What The Guys Do" for her hit "Upgrade U."

Ms. Wright's other noted singles are "Tonight is the Night" (1974) and "Where Is the Love" (1975). "Where Is the Love" won a Grammy for Best R&B Song in 1975. After experiencing a brief slump in the early 1980s, she rebounded and found her own record label, Ms. B Records. In 1988, she made music history by becoming the first woman to have a gold record on her own label with the release of *Mother Wit*, which featured two of her most famous hits, "No Pain No Gain"

and the "After the Pain." On both songs, Ms. Wright displays her upper register capabilities and seven-octave range. In 2001, she released a compilation album, *The Very Best of Betty Wright*. Her first studio album, *Fit for a King*, was also released the same year.

Currently, Ms. Wright continues to record music and mentors several young singers. She has done vocal production for the likes of Gloria Estefan, Jennifer Lopez and Joss Stone.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring Ms. Betty Wright, a true beacon of hope and musical talent from the 17th Congressional District of Florida. She is an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation. It is with deep respect and admiration that I commend Ms. Wright for sharing her beautiful talents with the rest of us. Through all of her adversity she continued to grace us with her gift of song.

RECOGNIZING FRANK N. BARRETT
OF CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank N. Barrett of Citrus County, Florida. In a couple of days, Frank will do something that all of us strive to do, but that very few of us will ever accomplish, celebrate his 100th birthday.

Born September 10, 1909 in East Orange, New Jersey, Frank is the oldest of seven children. He owned and operated a chemical and machinery business in Connecticut before he and his family moved to Florida more than 25 years ago. Frank is the loving father to six children, 11 grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren!

Frank loves to dance and has fond memories of teaching his wife and dancing partner of 52 years, Ingrid, the Tango.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring Frank N. Barrett for reaching his 100th birthday. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as him.

HONORING SHERYL BERRY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Sheryl Berry upon being named by the Madera District Chamber of Commerce as a 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree. Mrs. Berry was recognized on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at the Fifth Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards and Installation Dinner.

Sheryl Berry was born at Dearborn Hospital in Madera, California to Bob and Merrill Howe. During her childhood she was surrounded by her brothers and cousins. Work and community service began at a young age for Mrs. Berry. At five years old, she became a member of Camp Fire and she had her first job at the age of eight, licking postage stamps at the family-owned business, TECO. She graduated from Madera Union High School and attended Fresno State.

Mrs. Berry has dedicated her entire life to family, career and community. As a worker for the family business, TECO, she became known for her high business standards, strong sense of loyalty to the customers and further creating a highly successful business. After forty years, Mrs. Berry retired from managing the business, allowing her to spend even more time in the community and with her family.

The Camp Fire experience was a lasting commitment for Mrs. Berry. She continued

with the organization through her high school years. In 1971 she became an active member of Algeria Guild for Children's Hospital Central California, where she served as treasurer, secretary and president in 1976. She remains an active member of the guild and recently received her thirty-five year pin. As her children were growing up, they became involved with 4-H and Mrs. Berry was right along with them, as the boys began their own beef cattle projects. She served as the project leader for eighteen years in the areas of citizenship, cultural exchange, outdoor camping and sewing. Mrs. Berry also served as the 4-H Co-Camp Director for ten years.

In 1985 Mrs. Berry became involved with the Madera County Historical Society, where she is the current president and has maintained that position for ten years. Through her involvement with the Historical Society, she became involved with the Madera Method Wagon Train. She has traveled trails with the Wagon Train through the Madera County foothills, to Stockton, California and to Houston, Texas.

For her community activities, Mrs. Berry has received multiple awards and honors including, the 1987 4-H "Outstanding Community Club Leader," Madera District Fair 1988 "Homemaker of the Year," California State University, Fresno Ag One "Women in Agriculture, Common Thread Award" in 2000 and the Madera County Historical Society "Presidential Fume Award" in 2005. Mrs. Berry has a life long history of working to create a better community in Madera.

Mrs. Berry has been married to Randy for thirty-three years. She has four sons and eleven grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Sheryl Berry upon being honored with the Madera Chamber of Commerce 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Berry many years of continued success.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 14

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine cyber attacks, focusing on protecting industry against growing threats.

SD-342

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the health effects of cell phone use.

SD-138

SEPTEMBER 15

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael G. Mullen, for re-

appointment as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and reappointment to the grade of admiral.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine unemployment insurance benefits.

SD-215

Judiciary

Human Rights and the Law Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine human rights, focusing on mental illness in United States prisons and jails.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine potential costs and price volatility in the energy sector, focusing on the greenhouse gas trading program.

SD-366

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine security clearance reform, focusing on modernization.

SD-342

SEPTEMBER 16

Time to be announced

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Winslow Lorenzo Sargeant, of Wisconsin, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, and Peggy E. Gustafson, of Illinois, to be Inspector General, both of the Small Business Administration.

Room to be announced

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the use, impact, and accomplishments of Federal appropriations provided to improve the education of children in the District of Columbia.

SD-192

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Daniel I. Werfel, of Virginia, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

SD-226

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Richard Serino, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine exploring three strategies for Afghanistan.

SD-419

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine options from the review of the United States Human Space Flight Plans Committee.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 17

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine countering the threat of failure in Afghanistan.

SD-419

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 16

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine southern border violence.

SD-342